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DE RUEHVI #0022 0041750
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9279
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 0194

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 000022

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DEPARTMENT FOR NEA AND EUR/AGS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/04/2018

TAGS: [PREL](#) [SY](#) [AU](#)

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN RESPONSE: SUPPORTING ASPIRATIONS OF THE
SYRIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL

REF: 07 STATE 171106

Classified By: Acting Economic-Political Counselor Phillip R. Nelson
for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

(C) Acting EconPol Counselor met on January 4 with Christoph Meran from the MFA's Middle East and Africa Division to urge Austria to make a public statement in support of Syrian human rights and democracy activists. Meran said that the GoA would consider a statement, but he opined that a common EU statement might carry more weight. Meran suggested that the USG coordinate with the EU Heads of Mission in Damascus on the possibility of issuing a statement to support the National Council.
Kilner